

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 INR-07
LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 DODE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01
SP-02 L-03 SS-15 NSC-05 /077 W
-----312122Z 125402 /62

R 311112Z JAN 77
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0882
INFO AMEMBASSY GENEVA
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L NEW DELHI 1386

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS/ ILO, ELAB, IN
SUBJ: ILO DIRECTOR GENERAL'S REPORT ON THE ARAB-
ISRAELI ISSUE

REF: STATE 004508

1. LABCOUNSELOR DISCUSSED QUESTIONS RAISED REFTEL WITH
DR N. A. AGHA, LABOR SECRETARY AND GOI MEMBER ON THE
GOVERNING BODY, JANUARY 28. SOMEWHAT SURPRISINGLY AGHA
INTERPRETED THE POSTPONEMENT OF CONSIDERATION OF THE

DG'S REPORT AS INDICATING THAT THE ARABS DID NOT WISH
TO INSIST ON THEIR USUAL HARD LINE. AS SUPPORT FOR THIS
OPINION HE SAID THAT THE ARABS IN GENEVA MADE NO EFFORT
TO INFLUENCE HIS VOTE ON THE QUESTION. AGHA SAID THAT
GIVEN THIS APPARENTLY REDUCED ARAB CONCERN HE PERSONALLY
DID NOT ATTEND THE SESSION WHICH CONSIDERED THE QUESTION
BUT INSTRUCTED HIS DEPUTY NOT TO PARTICIPATE IN THE
DEBATE.

2. AGHA BELIEVES THAT THE ARABS AGAIN WILL AVOID TAKING
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A HARD LINE WHEN THE QUESTION IS CONSIDERED IN FEBRUARY.
HE NOTES THAT SINCE RETURNING TO NEW DELHI HE HAS NOT
BEEN TREATED TO ANY DEMARCHES BY ARAB REPRESENTATIVES.
AGHA STATED THAT IF THE FEBRUARY DISCUSSION OF THE ISSUE
DEVELOPED AS HE PREDICTED, HE WOULD AGAIN AVOID INVOLVE-
MENT IN THE ISSUE, I.E., IMPLYING THAT HE WOULD FAVOR
PUTTING THE ISSUE TO REST ONE WAY OR ANOTHER. HE SAID

THAT HE PERSONALLY WAS SYMPATHETIC TO THE US POSITION ON DUE PROCESS BUT NOTED THAT INDIA'S RELATIONS WITH THE ARABS INTRODUCED OTHER CONSIDERATIONS. HE IMPLIED THAT THESE MIGHT UPSET HIS PREFERENCE NOT TO BECOME INVOLVED, IF THE ARABS PRESSED THEIR CASE.

3. IN A CONVERSATION WITH POLCOUNSELOR JANUARY 31, MEA JOINT SECRETARY (UN) N.P. PAINHX AID (A) INDIAN DELEGATION WOULD UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES TAKE FORWARD POSITION ON OCCUPIED TERRITORIES ISSUE AT ILO MEETING, (B) MEA HAD "PULLED UP" THE INDIAN REP FOR TAKING TOO ACTIVE A PART IN SUPPORT OF ARABS JO ILO MEETING LAST YEAR, (C) THUS FAR NO ARABS HAD MENTIONED THE ILO ISSUE TO MEA, ALTHOUGH HE CAUTIONED AGAINST DRAWING ANY SHARP CONCLUSIONS FROM THAT, SINCE ARABS OFTEN PRODUCED THEIR TACTICAL APPROACHES ONLY AFTER MEETINGS BEGAN. JAIN WAS RELUCTANT TO INDICATE WHAT POSITION GOI WOULD TAKE AT ILO MEETING SINCE MUCH WOULD DEPEND ON WHAT ARABS SUGGESTED AND WHAT SUPPORT THEY GOT FROM OTHER NON-ALIGNED REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT.

4. IN A JANUARY 17 CONVERSATION WITH THE LABCOUNSELOR, THE INDIAN WORKER MEMBER OF THE GB, KANTI MEHTA, SAID THAT HE WAS NOT PRESENT AT THE NOVEMBER MEETING WHEN THE DG'S REPORT WAS BEING CONSIDERED. HE STATED, HOWEVER, THAT HE WAS NOT SYMPATHETIC TO THE US DESIRE TO ELIMINATE POLITICAL ISSUES FROM THE ILO. IN HIS OPINION PROBLEMS SUCH AS THE ARAB-ISRAELI DISPUTE ARE PART OF THE "WORLD DEBATE" WHICH THE ILO COULD NOT ESCAPE. HE WAS CONFIDENTIAL

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NOT MOVED BY ARGUMENTS ABOUT THE NEED TO PRESERVE THE ILO'S ABILITY TO DEAL WITH LABOR SUBJECTS.

5. WE HAVE THUS FAR NO BEEN ABLE TO MEET WITH THE INDIAN EMPLOYER MEMBER OF THE GB, NAVAL TATA.

6. COMMENT: WE HAVE THE IMPRESSION THAT THE LABOR SECRETARY IS ENGAGING IN A BIT OF WISHFUL THINKING IN HOPING THAT THE ARABS WILL NOT FORCE HIM TO MAKE SOME DIFFICULT CHOICES IN MARCH. IF THE ARABS PRESS THEIR CASE IN MARCH OR AT A LATER MEETING, WE BELIEVE THAT THE GOI WILL SUPPORT THEM AS IT DOES WHEN THE ARAB-ISRAELI DISPUTE IS RAISED IN OTHER CONTEXTS. IN SUCH A CASE, WE WOULD EXPECT THE INDIAN WORKER AND EMPLOYER MEMBERS TO FOLLOW SUIT. END COMMENT.
SCHNEIDER

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 31-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Errors: n/a
Expiration:
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